

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A method of manufacturing a honeycomb structure and a through hole forming device used in the manufacture of the honeycomb structure are ~~disclosed~~ provided, in which the step of closing a part of the cell ends at an end surface of the honeycomb structure is rationalized. In closing a part of the cell ends (82) at the end surface (861) of a honeycomb structure body (86), a film (2) is attached to the end surface (861) of the honeycomb structure body (86) in such a manner as to cover the cell ends (82). The portion of the film (2) located at the cell ends (82) to be closed is thermally melted or burnt off thereby to form through holes (20). The end surface (861) is dipped in a slurry containing an end surface closing material, so that the slurry is caused to enter the cell ends (82) by way of the through holes (20). After that, the slurry is hardened while at the same time removing the resin film (2).